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Authority ACD 901039
By HR-m/SG, HARA Date 3/6/91

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Control:

Rec'd:

1958 NOV 21
DEPT OF STATE

NOVEMBER 21, 1958
6:00 AM

1958 NOV 21
AM 11 05

FROM: BONN

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1085, NOVEMBER 21, 9 AM

SENT DEPARTMENT 1085; USAREUR HEIDELBERG PRIORITY 233, REPEATED INFORMATION BERLIN 295, LONDON, PARIS, MOSCOW UNNUMBERED.

REFERENCE BERLIN'S 345 TO DEPARTMENT NOVEMBER 16.

1. FOLLOWING IS RESULT YESTERDAY'S TRIPARTITE DISCUSSION OF
RETTEL:

1. REGARDING NUMBERED PARAGRAPH 1, EMBASSIES AGREED CIVIL AIRLINES SHOULD NOT RPT NOT ACCEPT GDR FLIGHT CLEARANCE. DISCUSSION ON REST OF PARAGRAPH BEING REPORTED SEPARATELY.

2. NUMBERED PARAGRAPH 2 ALSO AGREED.

3. CONCERNING USPOLAD'S RECOMMENDATION THAT TRAVEL DOCUMENTS NOT RPT NOT BE RELEASED TO EAST GERMANS, IT WAS FELT THAT, IF WE ACCEPT PRESENCE OF EAST GERMANS, IT DIFFICULT OBJECT TO THEIR HANDLING DOCUMENTS SAME WAY SOVIETS DO. BRITISH THOUGHT DATE STAMP MIGHT BE PROTESTED BUT ACCEPTED. FRENCH AND WE THOUGHT LITTLE USE IN PROTESTING UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES. WE SAID SITUATION WOULD BE DIFFERENT, HOWEVER, IF EAST GERMANS ATTEMPTED PLACE VISA OR SOME OTHER TRAVEL "AUTHORIZATION" ON MOVEMENT ORDERS INSTEAD OF MERE DATE STAMP. BRITISH TOOK VIEW THAT EVEN A VISA PLACED ON MOVEMENT ORDERS IN WAY DATE STAMP NOW IS WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE IMPORTANT SINCE TRAVELLER WOULD NOT RPT NOT HAVE APPLIED FOR IT AND GDR COULD NOT CLAIM ACCEPTANCE OF IT CONSTITUTED EVEN DE FACTO RECOGNITION.

MOREOVER, THIS WAS "VERY SMALL THING" TO ACCEPT IN ORDER AVOID SELF-BLOCKADE. WE SAID WE SAW NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN VISA TACITLY ACCEPTED AND ONE APPLIED FOR AND THAT NOT ONLY RECOGNITION ISSUE INVOLVED: ONCE WE STARTED ACCEPTING GDR VISAS OR OTHER

PERMANENT

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-2- 1085, NOVEMBER 21, 9 AM FROM BONN

TRAVEL "AUTHORIZATION", EVEN IF GIVEN VOLUNTARILY AND UNOBTRUSIVELY AT OUTSET, WE PUT OURSELVES IN POSITION OF PERMITTING GDR ACTUALLY TO CONTROL OUR ACCESS TO BERLIN. WE ASKED BRITISH TO RE-READ SECTION 1, PARAGRAPHS A2(B) AND B2(B) OF TRIPARTITE POLICY PAPER WHICH STATES TRAVELLER OR TRAIN WOULD TURN BACK RATHER THAN ACCEPT "GDR TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION WHICH MIGHT BE OFFERED ON SPOT". BRITISH ADMITTED THIS "SHOOK THEM SOMEWHAT" BUT SAID THEY STILL FELT SITUATION DIFFERENT IF VISA PLACED ON MOVEMENT ORDER MERELY AS DATE STAMP NOW IS. FRENCH TENDED AGREE OUR VIEW ON THIS QUESTION BUT SAID WOULD WISH CONSULT CHARGE D'AFFAIRES BEFORE EXPRESSING FIRM OPINION.

4. BRITISH AND FRENCH THOUGHT THERE MERIT IN USPOLAD'S SUGGESTION ABOUT MP'S HANDLING CONTACTS WITH EAST GERMANS AT AUTOBAHN CHECKPOINTS, AT LEAST DURING FIRST FEW DAYS; IT WAS AGREED HOWEVER TO SEEK VIEWS OF RESPECTIVE MILITARY HEADQUARTERS ON THIS QUESTION.

5. REGARDING USPOLAD'S FINAL SUGGESTION, IT WAS THOUGHT PROVISION FOR DIFFERENT TYPES OF PROTEST MIGHT ONLY CAUSE CONFUSION AT CHECKPOINTS WHERE AUTOBAHN TRAVELLERS BRIEFED; AND IT PROBABLE MOST TRAVELLERS WILL NOT IF NOT DELIVER PROTESTS VERY ACCURATELY ANYWAY.

II. WE ALSO CONSIDERED POSSIBILITY DISAPPEARANCE SOVIET KOMMANDATURA AT KARLSHORST AND WHICH SOVIET AUTHORITY BERLIN MISSIONS MIGHT APPROACH ON MATTER USUALLY DISCUSSED WITH KARLSHORST. BRITISH SAID THEY HAD PROPOSED AND LONDON HAD AGREED THAT APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE TO SOVIET EMBASSY EAST BERLIN AND, IF THIS FAILED, AT MOSCOW. ON MAJOR MATTERS DEPUTY COMMANDANTS COULD ATTEMPT, ON BEHALF THEIR RESPECTIVE AMBASSADORS, TO SEE SOVIET AMBASSADOR; MINOR MATTERS COULD BE TAKEN UP WITH PROTOCOL OFFICER SOVIET EMBASSY WITH WHOM MISSIONS HAVE SOMETIMES DEALT ON SUCH THINGS AS DISAPPEARANCE OF SOVIETS

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OF SOVIETS IN WEST BERLIN. FRENCH AND WE AGREED SEEK VIEWS
OUR GOVERNMENTS AND BERLIN MISSIONS ON THIS.

III. WE ASKED WHAT BRITISH AND FRENCH RECOMMENDED IF EAST
GERMANS APPEAR AT CHECKPOINTS AND DEMAND, AS THEY APT TO DO
BEFORE LONG, THAT MOVEMENT ORDERS BE IN GERMAN INSTEAD OF OR
"IN ADDITION TO ENGLISH, FRENCH, RUSSIAN. FRENCH THOUGHT
SHOULD REFUSE, "AT LEAST FOR TIME BEING." WE AGREED REFUSAL
BEST COURSE. BRITISH SAID TO INCLUDE GERMAN AT GDR REQUEST
WOULD BE "AWKWARD" AND THEREFORE SHOULD PROBABLY BE REFUSED;
HOWEVER, THEY THOUGHT PERHAPS GOOD IDEA VOLUNTARILY
PRODUCE MOVEMENT ORDERS IN FOUR LANGUAGES. ALL AGREED SEEK
GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS.

IV. DEPT'S COMMENTS ON ALL OF FOREGOING REQUESTED.

TRIMBLE

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